

STARS

Trenton Rhodes (ASCAP)

CHORAL VOICES – SATB minimal divisi

This piece is a musical setting of the poem by Sara Teasdale. When I first read the poem, I was immediately transported into this world of nocturnal beauty - viewing the stars while laying down in a field, which is exactly what the poem describes. Within this setting, I tried to capture the emotional quality of the poem while also literally musically depicting stars by using certain syllables in the choir. My original challenge was to use no divisi whatsoever in this piece, however I needed to break that rule one time towards the end with the sopranos. Other than that, fully SATB.

STARS

by SARA TEASDALE (1884 – 1933)

Alone in the night
On a dark hill
With pines around me
Spicy and still,

And a heaven full of stars
Over my head
White and topaz
And misty red;

Myriads with beating
Hearts of fire
The aeons
Cannot vex or tire;

Up the dome of heaven
Like a great hill
I watch them marching
Stately and still.

And I know that I
Am honored to be
Witness
Of so much majesty.

Score

Stars

text by Sara Teasdale
(public domain)

for SATB (minimal divisi)

Trenton Rhodes
(ASCAP)

Adagio ♩ = 68

pp

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Piano
(for rehearsal only)

A - lone in the night — on a
lone in the night — on a
lone in the night — on a
lone in the night — on a

5

S

A

T

B

Pno.

dark hill with pines a - round me spi - cy and
dark hill with pines a - round me spi - cy and
dark hill with pines a - round me spi - cy and
dark hill with pines a - round me spi - cy and

Stars

11

9 *pp*

S still _____ o - ver my

A *pp* still _____ hea - ven full of stars _____ o - ver my

T *pp* still _____ And a hea - ven full of stars o - ver my

B *pp* still _____ hea - ven full of stars _____ o - ver my

9 *pp*

Pno.

14 *moving forward*

S head _____ white and to - paz and mis - ty

A head white and to - paz and mis - ty -

T head white _____ and to - paz and mis - ty

B head white _____ and to - paz and mi - sty red mis - ty

14 *moving forward*

Pno.

Stars

19

f *dim.* *pp*

S

red

A

f *dim.* *pp*

red

T

f *dim.* *pp*

red

B

f *dim.* *pp*

red

Pno.

23

"ma" = sound like the twinkles in stars

S

ma ma ma ma ma ma ma ma

A

"ma" = sound like the twinkles in stars

ma ma ma ma ma ma ma ma

T

My - ri - ads with bea - ting Hearts of

B

My - ri - ads with bea - ting Hearts of

28

Pno.

Stars

27

S
ma ma ma ma ma ma ma ma ma ma

A
ma ma ma ma ma ma ma ma ma ma ma

T
8
fire That ae - ons Can - not vex or tire

B
fire That ae - ons can - not vex or tire

Pno.

32

S
Up the dome of hea - ven great hill

A
Up the dome of hea - ven Like a great hill

T
8
Up the dome of hea - ven Like a great hill

B
Up the dome of hea - ven Like a great hill

Pno.

Stars

36 *sub. p* *f* *ff* Ah!

S I watch them mar - ching Sta - tely and still And I

A I watch them mar - ching Sta - tely and still And I

T I watch them mar - ching Sta - tely and still And I

B I watch them mar - ching Sta - tely and still And I

Pno.

41

S know that I Am Ho - nored to be wit - ness

A know that I Am Ho - nored to be wit - ness

T know that I Am Ho - nored to be wit - ness

B know that I Am Ho - nored to be wit - ness

Pno.

41

Stars

45 *sub. p* *ff* **49** *p*

S Of so much ma - je - sty ma

A *sub. p* *ff* *p*

T *sub. p* *ff* *p*

B *sub. p* *ff* *p*

Of so much ma - je - sty ma

8

Of so much ma - je - sty ma

Of so much ma - je - sty ma

Pno. **49**

50 *pp*

S ma ma ma ma Ah

A *pp*

T *p* *pp*

B *pp*

ma ma ma ma Ah

ma ma ma ma Ah

ma ma ma ma Ah

Pno. 50

Stars

57 **Molto meno Mosso** ♩ = 42

55

S *ppp* A hea - ven full of

A *ppp* A hea - ven full of

T *ppp* A hea - ven full of

B *ppp* A hea - ven full of

Pno. 55 **Molto meno Mosso** ♩ = 42

58

S stars Stars

A ma ma ma ma Stars

T ma ma ma ma Stars

B ma ma ma ma Stars

Pno. 58